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DOCKETED 17

(54) Title: EPIDERMAL GROWTH FACTOR RECEPTOR ANTAGONISTS FOR TREATING HYPERSECRETION OF MUCUS IN THE LUNGS

(57) Abstract: Hypersecretion of mucus in the lungs is inhibited by the administration of an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGF-R) antagonist. The EGF-R antagonist may be in the form of a small organic molecule, an antibody, or portion of an antibody that binds to and blocks the EGF receptor. The EGF-R antagonist is preferably administered by injection in an amount sufficient to inhibit formation of goblet cells in pulmonary airways. The degranulation of goblet cells that results in airway mucus production is thereby inhibited. Assays for screening candidate agents that inhibit goblet cell proliferation are also provided.

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INTERNAT. JNAL SEARCH REPORT

Internati Application No PCT/US 99/18696

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 A61K31/00 A61K38/00

A61P11/00

A61P11/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed in annex.
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	 *T° later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention *X° document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone *Y° document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *&° document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search 13 December 2000	Date of mailing of the international search report
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 Nt 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl. Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Mair, J

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Internati Application No PCT/US 99/18696

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Internati Application No PCT/US 99/18696

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		PCT/US 99/18696		
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

uonal application No.
PCT/US 99/18696

Box I	Observations where certain claims w re found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)
	Continuation of tem 1 of first sheet)
This Int	ernational Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1. X	Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
	Although claims 1-14 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compositions.
2. X	Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
	see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3.	Claims Nos.
э. <u>Г</u>	Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box II	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This Inte	mational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
٠	application, as londing.
	see additional sheet
1. X	As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
2.	As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.	As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report
اللا	covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
	·
4.	No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
Remark o	The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
	No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-14, 20-27

Pharmaceutical formulations containing an epidermal growth factor receptor antagonist and their use in relation to the treatment of hypersecretion of mucus in the lungs.

2. Claim: 15 and 16

An in vitro method for screening candidate agents for decreasing goblet cell proliferation.

3. Claims: 17-19

An in vivo method for screening candidate agents for inhibiting goblet cell proliferation or mucus secretion.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Present claims 1, 2, 4-14 and 20-27 relate to a compound defined by reference to a desirable characteristic or property, namely "an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGF-R) antagonist" etcetera. The claims cover all compounds having this characteristic or property, whereas the application provides support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT for a limited number of such compounds. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claims which appear to be clear, supported and disclosed, namely those parts relating to the compound specifically mentioned in claim 3 and those for which experimental data is given with due regard to the general idea underlying the application.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

INTERNAT WAL SEARCH REPORT

Internation on patent family members

Internation No PCT/US 99/18696

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